

A sheathed-element glow plug having an ionic-current sensor, as well as a method for operating a sheathed-element glow plug having an ionic-current sensor are described, the sheathed-element glow plug having a housing and a rod-shaped heating element arranged in a concentric bore hole of the housing. The heating element has at least one insulating layer as well as a first lead layer and a second lead layer, the first lead layer and the second lead layer being connected via a bar at the end of the heating element on the combustion chamber side, the first and second lead layers and the bar being made of electroconductive ceramic material, and the insulating layer being made of electrically insulating ceramic material. The heating element has a first electrode for detecting ionic current and a second electrode for detecting ionic current which are embedded in the insulating layer or applied on the insulating layer.